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REMARKS

Claims 1-32 are pending in the application. Applicants amend claim 29 for clarification.

No new matter has been added.

Applicants claimed foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 from Japanese Patent Application No. 2002-333501 (filed November 18, 2002), and filed a certified copy of the foreign priority application concurrently with the present application. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner properly acknowledge the priority claim and the receipt of the certified copy of the priority documents.

Applicants request that the Examiner consider the Information Disclosure Statement (“IDS”) filed concurrently with this application and the one dated April 6, 2005. Applicants further request that the Examiner return signed and initialed copies of the PTO-1449 forms attached thereto, respectively, and indicate acceptance of the drawings in the application.

Applicants elect species B identified by the Examiner—illustrated in Figs. 6-10 and covered by claims 5-6, 14, 19, and 29—for prosecution.

Applicants reserve the right to file a continuing and/or divisional application directed to any of the non-elected claims. Early examination on the merits is earnestly solicited.

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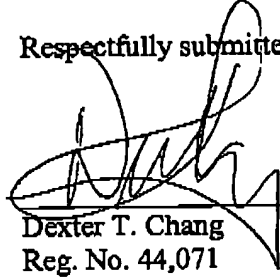
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Respectfully submitted,


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